

July 10, 2014

Marisela Ward  
MoDOT Kansas City District  
600 NE Colbern Road  
Lee's Summit, MO 64086

**I do hereby certify that in accordance with the requirements of 23 CFR 635.411(a)(2), this patented or proprietary item is essential for synchronization with existing highway facilities.**

 7/15/14  
**State Design Engineer**

RE: CMAQ-3300 (309) –Bike Share KC Phase 2 Proprietary Item Certification

Dear Marisela:

BikeWalkKC seeks approval for a Proprietary Item Certification for project number CMAQ-3300 (309) – Bike Share KC Phase 2. We seek to purchase bike share stations and bicycles from B-cycle LLC in Madison, Wisconsin who produces the only known bike share equipment that is compatible with the current bike share stations operating in Kansas City, MO.

**No equally suitable alternative to B-cycle equipment exists** because of the following conditions:

- Bike share stations and bikes to be purchased as part of this federal project are intended to interact with the existing stations and bikes – users make one-way trips between stations and all stations must be compatible with the rest of the network
- Docking mechanism in the existing stations are only compatible with B-cycle bicycles – existing bikes will not physically fit into the docks of any other bike share equipment
- Software that communicates between the stations and the back-end administrative interface is only compatible with B-cycle hardware including bikes, docks, self-service kiosk as well as the software that controls the administrative interface
- Tools and other equipment, which BikeWalkKC has already purchased for the operation of the existing bikes, docks, and self-service kiosks, are proprietary and compatible only with B-cycle equipment. Purchasing additional tools to operate a different, incompatible bike share system would cause undue cost burden on BikeWalkKC.

**Additional cost** to contract with a company to simply design equipment to be compatible with existing bike share system in Kansas City is estimated to be in excess of \$500,000. Cost to purchase such redesigned equipment is unknown but assumed to be similar to the cost of purchasing equipment from B-cycle.

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[www.bikewalkkc.org](http://www.bikewalkkc.org)

Duration and timeline of this request reflect the need to move forward with construction of this project no later than September 1<sup>st</sup> of 2014. The project has already experienced unexpected delay and must move forward immediately in order to meet projected air quality and congestion mitigation benefits. We are also concerned about meeting the Mid America Regional Council's reasonable progress policy, as the great majority of the funding for this project has not been obligated.

Best regards,



Eric Bunch  
Director of Bike Share  
Operations and Planning



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